

### REMARKS

The specification has been amended. Claims 7, 9, 12, 23, 25, 28, 39, 41, and 44 have been amended. No new matter is introduced with these amendments, all of which are supported in the specification as originally filed. Claims 7 - 16, 23 - 32, and 39 - 48 remain in the application.

I. Rejection Under 35 U. S. C. §102(e)

Paragraph 4 of the Office Action dated June 8, 2005 (hereinafter, "the Office Action") state that Claims 7 - 9, 12, 23 - 25, 28, 39 - 41, and 44 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent 6,721,740 to Skinner et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that Skinner fails to teach limitations of their independent Claims 7, 23, and 39. These claims have been amended herein to more clearly specify limitations of Applicants' invention. In particular, Skinner fails to teach a cache of "objects ... for responding to update requests against a back-end data source corresponding to each of the objects, wherein ... update logic specifying how to update the back-end data source corresponding to each of the stored objects is stored with or associated with the stored object ..." (Claim 7, lines 5 - 9, emphasis added) and "checking an update policy to determine an update mode to use for a selected update request ..." (Claim 7, lines 12 - 13, emphasis added).

In discussing Claim 23, paragraph 4 of the Office Action cites col. 16, lines 5 - 20 as teaching Applicants' claim limitation pertaining to "update logic specifying how to update each of the stored objects ...", noting that this cited text pertains to "client-side update management". This

cited text is further discussed in paragraph 8 of the Office Action, and more specifically, reference is made therein to lines 5 - 7 of col. 16. Applicants respectfully note that this cited text specifies that client-side update management component 304A “provides the software mechanism by which updates are applied to data objects and other associated objects within the respective client” (emphasis added). Applicants’ independent claims have been amended herein to more clearly specify that the update logic specifies how to update the back-end data source corresponding to the stored objects (Claim 7, lines 8 - 9), and respectfully submit that this is patentably distinct from the client-side updating described by the cited text of Skinner.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Skinner has no teaching of an “update policy” which can be checked to determine an “update mode” (Claim 7, lines 12 - 13), nor checking such update policy “responsive to ... receiving [update requests against one or more cached objects]” (Claim 7, lines 13 - 14).

Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Skinner fails to anticipate their independent Claims 7, 23, and 39. Accordingly, dependent Claims 8 - 9, 12, 24 - 25, 28, 40 - 41, and 44 are also not anticipated by Skinner. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the §102 rejection.

## II. Rejection Under 35. U. S. C. §103(a)

Paragraph 6 of the Office Action states that Claims 11, 14, 27, 30, 43, and 46 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Skinner in view of U. S. Patent 5,896,444 to

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Perlman et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As demonstrated above, Skinner fails to teach all limitations of Applicants' independent Claims 7, 23, and 39. Accordingly, Skinner and Perlman cannot be combined (assuming, *arguendo*, that such combination could be made and that one of skill in the art would be motivated to attempt the combination) to render Applicants' dependent Claims 11, 14, 27, 30, 43, and 46 unpatentable. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the §103 rejection.

III. Claims 10, 13, 15, 26, 29, 31, 42, 45, and 47

The Office Action provides no discussion of Claims 10, 13, 15, 26, 29, 31, 42, 45, and 47. Accordingly, Applicants presume that these claims specify allowable subject matter.

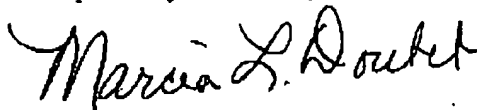
In the alternative, the Office Action fails to make out a *prima facie* case of unpatentability as to these claims, and without more, Claims 10, 13, 15, 26, 29, 31, 42, 45, and 47 are deemed patentable. See *In re Oetiker*, 24 USPQ 2d 1443, 1444 (Fed. Cir. 1992), which stated:

If the examination at the initial stage does not produce a *prima facie* case of unpatentability, then without more the applicant is entitled to grant of the patent.

IV. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejected claims, withdrawal of all presently outstanding rejections, and allowance of all claims at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Marcia L. Doubet". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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